VZCZCXRO8641 PP RUEHBI RUEHCI RUEHNEH DE RUEHNE #0468 0721128 ZNR UUUUU ZZH P 131128Z MAR 09 FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5730 INFO RUCPDOC/USDOC WASHDC RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC RHHJJPI/PACOM IDHS HONOLULU HI RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHDC RUEHLM/AMEMBASSY COLOMBO 1605 RUEHCG/AMCONSUL CHENNAI 4420 RUEHCI/AMCONSUL KOLKATA 3635 RUEHNEH/AMCONSUL HYDERABAD 0345 RUEHKA/AMEMBASSY DHAKA 2001 RUEHIL/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD 5873 RUEHKT/AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU 2448 RUEHKP/AMCONSUL KARACHI 9366 RUEHBI/AMCONSUL MUMBAI 3461 RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON 6060 RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 7712 RHOVVKG/COMSEVENTHFLT RHMFISS/HQ USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL

UNCLAS NEW DELHI 000468

SIPDIS

STATE FOR NP, AC, PM

STATE FOR INR/MR

STATE FOR SCA/INS, PM/CBM, PM/PRO

STATE FOR SCA/PPD, PA/RRU

STATE FOR AID/APRE-A

USDOC FOR 4530/IEP/ANESA/OSA FOR BILL MURPHY

E.O. 12958:N/A

TAGS: KMDR KPAO PGOV PREL IN

SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION: PAKISTAN, CAMPAIGN AGAINST TERRORISM; NEW DELHI.

This countrywide cable reports on relevant media reaction/opinion from India's large non-English press. The Mission reports on English-language media via email through the daily "Early Edition" summary.

PAKISTAN

11. "POLITICAL CRISIS IN PAKISTAN" editorial in the March 13 Guwahati Assamese ASAMIYA PRATIDIN. "... It seems Pakistan is heading for another military coup with the current political crisis deepening further ... The government's failure to curb the growing activities of the Taliban and the Al Qaida makes the situation more complicated ... Pakistan's army chief, on his return from the U.S., has already cautioned the Zardari government ... Undeniably, Pakistan now needs a strong government because not only its elected government but also its democracy is in serious danger."

12. "TALIBANISTAN" editorial in the March 13, 2009 multiedition right-of-center Gujarati daily GUJARAT SAMACHAR. "Pakistan has now become subject of suspicion. There are alarming questions being raised whether Pakistan is victim of terrorism or is nurturing terrorism.... Pakistan is just shedding crocodile tears by claiming that it is itself suffering from this menace. The fact of the matter is that Pakistan has nurtured this hydra headed monster of terrorism over the years..... It is as a result of this that Taliban ultras are making swift inroads into Pakistan. The attack on the Sri Lankan cricket team in Lahore last week is a case in point. Besides, the developments in the Swat valley indicate the beginning of Talibanization of Pakistan." A similar editorial appeared in the March 13, 2009 Gujarati daily GUJARATMITRA.

CAMPAIGN AGAINST TERRORISM

13. "CONSPIRACY IN THE SUBCONTINENT," editorial in the March 13 left-of-center Kolkata Bengali daily, SAMBAD PRATIDIN. "A deep conspiracy is being hatched to foment widespread turbulence in India, Bangladesh, Pakistan, and in Sri Lanka. Which forces are playing behind the scene to make the situation complicated? ... This issue should be raised in the international forum ... There is no reason to think that terrorists are getting cornered or their activities are confined to some regions. All the four countries need to intensify their anti-terror operations. At the same time, it is extremely important to build public awareness against terrorism."